

Annual Report: Cllr. John Craig Lawson 2011/12

Introduction

This year was my second year as a ward member for Cleckheaton. I have built on the work of the first year and worked hard with my ward colleagues, to ensure that we made a difference to the people who live and work in the Cleckheaton Ward.

Participation at Council Meeting Committees

- Full council
- Overview and Management Scrutiny Committee
- Heavy Woollen Planning Committee
- Mid Yorkshire Hospitals Trust Scrutiny Committee
- Sat as a substitute for Committee Member on several panels
- Spen Valley Area Committee
- Oakenshaw Residents Association
- Scholes Tenants and Residents Association (formerly Foldings TRA)

Participation on Outside Bodies

- I sat as a Community Governor at Whitechapel Middle School (now closed)
- I sit on the First Community trust panel which decides on applications to the fund
- I am a Board member for The Media Centre

Ward Work

With my ward colleagues I have:-

- campaigned against the removal of services from Cleckheaton Town Hall;
- campaigned to clear and re-use derelict land in Cleckheaton;
- worked for and implemented several road safety initiatives including new road safety measures in Oakenshaw, installation of Speed Indicator Displays and working with local Neighbourhood Police Teams and Schools to raise speed awareness surrounding our schools;
- I have worked with the Chamber of Commerce and The Totally Locally organisation to ensure the successful launch of the organisation In Cleckheaton, the first town in Kirklees to launch the local business marketing scheme;
- opposed the Boundary Commission proposals to 'redraw' Parliamentary constituencies.

Members Surgeries

I have attended regular surgeries at Cleckheaton Town Hall and St Phillips and St James Church in Scholes (these occur every Saturday at 10:00am except bank holidays).

In addition, I have started another surgery at St Andrews Church in Oakenshaw (every first Saturday of the month at 11:00am except bank holidays).

There is also a monthly surgery at Turnsteads Community Centre.

Training and Development

- Annual updates for Planning legislation
- Annual updates for Licensing legislation